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CACFP Award Program: Putting Your Plan in Place

Brief Synopsis:

- Develop your action plan or procedures
- Establish a realistic time frame for the implementation of the plan, remembering that the Wellness Policy can be a phased-in approach and does not have to be implemented all at once
- Choose an individual who is responsible for evaluating and enforcing your guidelines
- Find resources that are necessary to gain widespread approval by staff, parents, children/students, and the local community
- 2. Links to help you put your policies into practice:
 - Wisconsin's guide for improving childhood nutrition: http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/fns/pdf/healthy_bites.pdf
 - Wisconsin's guide for improving childhood physical activity: http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/fns/pdf/active_early.pdf

3. Strategies to overcome barriers

- Be aware of the following barriers that could exist:
 - Confusion about nutrition standards or food allowed under the new policy
 - Lack of time to implement
 - Complaints from parents, children/students, staff about the changes
 - Lack of product availability
 - Existing vending contracts and compliance
 - Lack of facilities for physical exercise
 - Lack of priority from administrators and/or teachers

Strategies:

- Create a "Wellness Culture" with a goal of producing successful, healthy children
- Build consensus and participation
- Move to non-food items as rewards